

apex and prominently 3-veined calyx-lobes. Within this section, this species is likely to be confused with the closely allied species *H. aculeatus* Roxb. (syn. *H. furcatus* Roxb.) because of prickly petioles and pedicels, non-foiaceous stipules and similar flowers. However, the latter species is a rambling or trailing undershrub which has undivided leaves or if leaves 3-5-lobed then lobed up to about middle only, ovate-lanceolate stipules and smaller fruits (1.2-1.5 cm long). Further, there are two important features in which the description given here differs essentially from the one given by Paul (1993) who describes pedicels 2-4 mm long and flower yellow with dark purple centre. However, in both these features the description given above matches with the one provided by Cooke (1958, pedicels 0.5-1 inch long) and Masters (1874,

corolla yellow with a crimson centre or all purple).

Fl. & Fr.: September-December.

Illustration: Paul (*loc. cit.*)

Material examined: Urban Estate, Patiala; coll. M. Sharma 16669, 16670 (PUN).

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34. EXTENDED DISTRIBUTION OF TWO RARE AND ENDANGERED TAXA FROM TIRUNELVELI HILLS, WESTERN GHATS, TAMIL NADU

During plant explorations in the Kalakad-Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve (KMTR), Tamil Nadu, special attention was given to relocate the rare and threatened taxa, which resulted in the relocation of two species namely *Memecylon flavescens* Gamble (Melastomataceae), and *Ilex denticulata* Wall. ex Wight (Aquifoliaceae) (Henry *et al.* 1978, Nair and Henry 1983, Nayar and Sastry 1990, Sivarajan and Mathew 1996). They were critically studied in the Botanical Survey of India, (MH), Coimbatore. The specimens are deposited in St. Xavier's College Herbarium (XCH), Palayamkottai. The present finding extends the known distribution of these

species. For easy identity, short descriptions including phenology, ecology and distribution are given.

Memecylon flavescens Gamble Kew Bull. 1919:226. 1919 & Fl. Pres. Madras 1:503. 1997 (rep. edi.); K. Vivekananthan in Nair & Henry, Fl. Tamil Nadu 1:160. 1983; Ahmedullah & Nair, End. Pl. Indian Region 1:109. 1986; Sivarajan & Mathew, Fl. Nilambur 3:270. 1996.

Shrub to 1 m; branchlets sub-terete, glabrous, woody. Leaves decussate-opposite, elliptic-ovate, 2-5 x 1.5-2.5 cm, membranous, glossy, yellowish-green when dry, base cuneate, margin entire, recurved, apex obtuse-acute with

retuse. Flowers sessile, 4-7 mm, in axillary-lateral tubercled racemes; bracteoles oblong, to 1.5 mm; Calyx-lobes 4, ovate, to 1 mm, acute apex. Petals 4, blue, orbicular-ovate, 2 x 2 mm. Stamens 8, equal, to 3 mm. Ovary globose, 1 mm, 1-celled, papillose; ovules 6-10, central placentae. Berry globose, 7 x 6 mm, dark purple.

Fl. & Fr.: March-August.

Ecology: Rare in Evergreen Forests and Sholas between 700-1,500 m.

Distribution: INDIA: Tamil Nadu - Kanyakumari, Nilgiri. Kerala - Avalanche, Kundha.

Specimens Examined: Tamil Nadu - Kanyakumari district, Upper Kodayar 1,500 m, 7.viii.1996, Manickam, 10047 XCH; 1,500 m, 17.iv.1996, Manickam & Murugan 12630 XCH; Mahendragiri ?±700, 27.iii.1999, Murugan *et al.*, 18664 XCH; Nilgiri district, Avalanche, 2,000 m, 28.iii.1972, K. Vivekananthan, 79350 MH.

Ilex denticulata Wall. ex Wight, Ill. 2:t.142. 1850; Hook. f. Fl. Brit. India 1:600. 1875; Gamble, Fl. Pres. Madras 1:200. 1997 (rep. ed.); Ramamurthy in Nair & Henry, Fl. Tamil Nadu 1:72. 1983.

Tree, to 4-6 m; branchlets pubescent, subterete, Leaves alternate, elliptic-oblong, 5-8 x 3-5 cm, membranous, glossy, glabrous, base acute, margin obscurely serrate, revolute, apex obtuse-acuminate; nerves 5-7 pairs, obscure, looped; Petiole 1 cm, pubescent. Female flowers pale yellow, 5-8 mm diameter in axillary-umbel to 2 cm; Pedicel slender, 1-1.5 cm, puberulous; Peduncle 0. Calyx-tube cupular under 0.5 mm; lobes 4, ±0.25 mm. Petals 4, oblong 3 x 2 mm,

pale yellow. Staminodes 4, equal, to 2 mm, alternate to Petals. Ovary globose, 1.5 mm, 4-celled; Ovules 1 in each locule, apical placentae. Stigma sessile, 4-lobed, thick.

Fl.: March

Ecology: Rare in Evergreen Forests at ±1,500 m.

Distribution: India (Tamil Nadu - Coimbatore, Madurai, Nilgiri, Salem and Kanyakumari districts) and Sri Lanka.

Specimens Examined: Tamil Nadu - Kanyakumari district, upper Kodayar, 1,000-1,500 m, 10.iii.1998, Manickam & Murugan, 14863 XCH; ±1,275 m, 27.iii.1984, Gopalan, 144877 MH; Nilgiri district, Longwood R.E., 2,075 m, 12.xi.1990, Vajravelu, 71384 MH.

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